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Message Text

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11
ORIGIN DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02

ORM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 OIC-04 /183 R

DRAFTED BY D/PW:FASIEVERTS:GM
APPROVED BY S/R:FLKELLOGG
L:MR.ALDRICH
DOD/ISA:DR.SHIELDS
IO/UNP:MR.HEWITT
NEA/PAB:MR.HOLMES (INFO)
L/UNA:MR.NELSON
EUR:WSTABLER
---------- 080244
R 252236Z OCT 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USMISSION GENEVA
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
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AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ICRC
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS,
TEHRAN, NOVEMBER 7-16, 1973

REF: STATE 177463 (NOTAL)

1. USG IS CONSIDERING POSSIBLE ACTION AT SUBJECT CONFERENCE TO REAFFIRM INTERNATIONAL CONCERN ABOUT ACCOUNTING FOR MISSING IN ACTION PERSONNEL DURING AND AFTER ARMED CONFLICTS. SUBJECT IS OF CURRENT CONCERN TO USG BECAUSE OF LACK OF ACCOUNTING FOR OUR MIA'S IN INDOCHINA CONFLICT. WE BELIEVE SUBJECT IS ALSO OF GENERAL CONCERN BECAUSE OF LACK OF ACCOUNTING FOR MIA'S IN OTHER CONFLICTS (INDIA-PAKISTAN, MIDDLE EAST). WE VIEW QUADRENNIAL INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONFERENCE AS UNIQUELY APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR REAFFIRMATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN ABOUT THIS HUMANITARIAN PROBLEM.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST ACTION POSTS, AT DISCRETION, APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENTS TO DISCUSS USG INTEREST IN SEEKING EXPRESSION OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN ON MIA'S AT SUBJECT CONFERENCE. APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE IF POSSIBLE TO HEADS OF HOST GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS TO CONFERENCE. YOU SHOULD INFORM HOSTS THAT USG DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY AMBASSADOR FRANK KELLOGG, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR REFUGEE AND MIGRATION AFFAIRS, WHO LOOKS FORWARD TO MEETING WITH OTHER DELEGATION HEADS AT TEHRAN.

3. PARA FIVE BELOW PROVIDES POSSIBLE DRAFT LANGUAGE EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT MIA SITUATION AND ENDORSING WORK OF RED CROSS AGENCIES IN ALLEVIATING PROBLEM. DRAFT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO HOST OFFICIALS, WITH INDICATION THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

WE WOULD WELCOME THEIR SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP OF IT AT CONFERENCE, WHERE IT MIGHT BE INTRODUCED AS SEPARATE RESOLUTION OR INCLUDED AS PART OF MORE GENERAL RESOLUTION. YOU MAY INDICATE THAT USG BELIEVES THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATELY CONSIDERED IN THE GENERAL COMMISSION OF THE CONFERENCE, RATHER THAN THE COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW.

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4. PLEASE REPORT HOST'S REACTION AS WELL AS NAMES OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS TO CONFERENCE. REQUEST GENEVA INFORM ICRC.

5. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT TEXT. BEGIN TEXT:

THE XXIIND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS,

RECOGNIZING THAT ONE OF THE TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES OF ARMED CONFLICTS IS A LACK OF INFORMATION ON PERSONS OF ALL PARTIES WHO ARE MISSING OR WHO HAVE DIED, INCLUDING THOSE WHO DIED IN CAPTIVITY, AND

IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE HUMANITARIAN TRADITIONS OF THE RED CROSS, AND WITH THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949:

CALLS ON PARTIES TO ARMED CONFLICTS, DURING HOSTILITIES AND AFTER CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES, TO HELP LOCATE AND CARE FOR THE GRAVES OF THE DEAD, TO FACILITATE THE DISINTERMENT AND RETURN OF REMAINS, AND TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ABOUT THOSE WHO ARE MISSING IN ACTION;

AND FURTHER CALLS ON PARTIES TO ARMED CONFLICTS TO COOPERATE WITH THE ICRC AND ITS CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY, AND WITH SUCH OTHER APPROPRIATE BODIES AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED FOR THIS PURPOSE, INCLUDING NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES, TO ACCOMPLISH THE HUMANITARIAN MISSION OF ACCOUNTING FOR THE DEAD AND MISSING. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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Disposition Remarks:
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